

NEWS



October 28, 2005
For Immediate Release

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California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Announces State-of-the Art Partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's Office to Monitor High-Risk Sex Offender Parolees

(Santa Ana) – Today the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) announced a groundbreaking partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's office to implement a statewide Global Positioning System program to track the movements of high risk sex offenders.

"The most important mission of CDCR is to promote and enhance public safety. We are proud that by means of this GPS program, our Adult Parole Division is in the forefront of public safety enhancement," said Roderick Q. Hickman, secretary of CDCR.

"The partnership between the State and our department means that Orange County will be a safer place," said Sheriff Michael Carona. "As these partnerships roll out throughout California, it means that it will be that much harder for criminals to prey on the innocent."

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is the first and only state level agency – nationwide – that has implemented active GPS and Automated Crime Scene Correlation program to better track high risk sex offenders and monitor their activities.

"Beginning this week, more than 40 high risk sex offenders in Orange County will be issued the GPS electronic bracelets that will make it easier for law enforcement officers and parole agents to track their whereabouts and determine their location at the time of a crime," Hickman said.

Orange County will be the first local law enforcement agency to not only access CDCR data but also share its data with CDCR parole agents.

"The difference is real-time crime scene correlation," Hickman said. "The GPS program, our Adult Parole Division is in the forefront of public safety."

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“GPS technology is proving to be an effective evidence based law enforcement tool in assisting parole agents and law enforcement officers in their mission to increase public safety, and monitor the movement of sex offenders,” added Carona.

GPS uses satellite technology to track each parolee's position and movement around the clock and every day of his parole term. In this application, it is coupled with an automated link from local law enforcement agencies that will either place a monitored offender at the scene of the crime or eliminate that offender from the scene of the crime.

What makes this phase so exciting is the partnership the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has entered into with the Orange County Sheriff's Department to share information that will provide law enforcement with real time crime scene correlation data, Hickman noted. “We are proud to have the Orange County Sheriff's Department as our partners in this effort.”

Orange County will be the first place in the country to use active, real-time GPS supervision of sex offenders featuring crime scene correlation in partnership with local law enforcement.

There are two ways in which this partnership will help ensure public safety:

1. Assisting law enforcement with responding to emergency alerts
2. Collecting and compiling crime scene correlation data.

In the crime scene correlation system, the sheriff's department can input crime scene data into the system and then cross reference with CDCR data to see if any of the GPS-tracked parolees was at the scene. Just as important, they can also tell which parolees who were not there in the area.

- The pilot program began in San Diego County in July 1, 2005. 80 units are currently in use in the region.
- 40 additional units have been placed in Orange County on High Risk Sex Offenders
- HRSO caseload will be 20-1 (traditional HRSO caseload is 40 – 1)
- Costs: the additional cost of monitoring with a GPS unit is approximately \$7 per day.
- That figure does not include increased staffing costs.

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